WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A compound of formula (I)

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-AA^3-AA^4-AA^5-AA^6-AA^7-Arg-Pro-AA^{10}

(I),

or a pharmacutically acceptable salt, ester, prodrug, or solvate thereof, wherein

AA^3 is selected from the group consisting of

(1) glutaminyl,

(2) phenylalanyl,

(3) valyl, and

(4) asparaginyl;

AA^4 is selected from the group consisting of

(1) D-isoleucyl,

(2) isoleucyl,

(3) D-leucyl, and

(4) D-alloisoleucyl;

AA^5 is selected from the group consisting of

(1) seryl,

(2) methionyl,

(3) allothreonyl,

(4) threonyl, and

(5) tyrosyl;

AA^6 is selected from the group consisting of

(1) norvalyl,

(2) seryl,

(3) tryptophyl,

(4) glutaminyl, and

(5) prolyl;

AA^7 is selected from the group consisting of

(1) isoleucyl,

(2) D-isoleucyl,

(3) lysyl(acetyl), and

(4) prolyl; and

AA^{10} is selected from the group consisting of

(1) D-alanylamide,

(2) ethylamide, and

(3) isopropylamide;

with the proviso that one of AA^4 and AA^7 is a D-amino acid.

2. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein AA^4 is D-Ile.

3. A compound according to Claim 2 selected from the group consisting of
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Phe-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Lys(Ac)-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Pro-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Gln-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Met-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$, and
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Pro-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$.

4. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein AA^4 is D-Leu.

5. A compound according to Claim 4 selected from the group consisting of
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Leu-Ser-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$, and
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Leu-Thr-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$.

6. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein AA^4 is D-alloIle.

7. A compound according to Claim 6 selected from the group consisting of
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Thr-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-alloIle-Tyr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-alloIle-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Thr-Trp-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH(CH$_3$)$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Thr-Trp-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-alloThr-Gln-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$, and
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Ser-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$.

8. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of Claim 1, or a pharmacutically acceptable salt, ester, prodrug, or solvate thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

9. A method of treating a patient in need of anti-angiogenesis therapy comprising administering to the patient in need a therapeutically effective amount of a compound in Claim 1, or a pharmacutically acceptable salt, ester, prodrug, or solvate thereof.

10. A composition for the treatment of a disease selected from cancer, arthritis, psoriasis, angiogenesis of the eye associated with infection or surgical intervention, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy comprising a peptide as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmacutically acceptable salt, ester, prodrug, or solvate thereof, in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. A method of isolating a receptor from an endothelial cell comprising binding a peptide as defined in Claim 1, or a pharmacutically acceptable salt, ester, prodrug, or solvate thereof, to the receptor to form a peptide receptor complex; isolating the peptide receptor complex; and purifying the receptor.

12. A compound selected from the group consisting of
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Phe-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gln-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Leu-Ser-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-(6-Me-Nicotinyl)-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-Ile-Thr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Thr-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Ile-Thr-Nva-Lys(Ac)-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-alloIle-Tyr-Nva-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-alloIle-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Asn-D-Leu-Thr-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,
N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Gln-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Nva-Pro-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Thr-Trp-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Ser-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH(CH$_3$)$_2$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Thr-Gln-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Thr-Trp-D-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Thr-Nva-Ile-Arg-D-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-Met-Nva-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-Ile-alloThr-Pro-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$,

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-alloThr-Gln-Ile-Arg-ProNHCH$_2$CH$_3$, and

N-Ac-Sar-Gly-Val-D-alloIle-Ser-Ser-Ile-Arg-Pro-D-AlaNH$_2$.